



Life Group Work Sheet Ephesians - I'm a Saint!

January 19, 2014

Getting to Know Each Other

1. Did you have a chance to watch a past sermon online two weeks ago? How have you survived the cold these past few weeks?

Part 2 - Application

2. **Read Ephesians 1:1-2.** When you hear the word "saint," what comes to mind?
3. The word "saints" simply means, "holy ones," and is used by Paul to refer to all Christians. Do you consider yourself holy? Why is it significant that God considers us holy in spite of the many times we are far from being holy?
4. **Read Romans 5:6-11.** What does this passage tell us about why God calls us saints? Is it because we act holy?
5. God considers us his holy ones not because of anything we have done, but because of what he has done for us. Think of a sin that you seem to always struggle with. How does God's declaration that we are "saints" help our understanding of our identity? How does it help us to overcome that sin?
6. The word "saints" almost always occurs in the plural in the New Testament, showing us the importance of living in Christian community. How does Christian community remind us of who we are? How does it help us to live like saints?

Part 3 - Digging Deeper

Take a look at these words from 1 Peter 2:9:

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

What does this text tell us about how God sees each of us?

1. Think back to our sermon this week on Ephesians 1:3-14. What does it mean to be chosen?
2. In the Old Testament, the priests were the ones with direct access to God and who offered worship to God. What is the significance of God calling us priests?

WHO ON EARTH AM I?

Last week, we looked at where popular culture (found in magazines, TV, and social media) want us to find our identity. This week, we're going to look at what Scripture says about our identity.

During the course of this week, read through the book of Ephesians (one chapter a day, six chapters total). While reading, answer the following questions each day:

- What does this text say about who I am in Christ?
- What does this truth mean for my life (i.e., how does this apply to my situation)?
- How is this different from what the world tells me about who I am?
- How can I remind myself of this truth?

Example:

Ephesians 1:1 declares that I am a saint. This past week I learned that being a saint means that I am a holy one. God sees me as holy because of Jesus.

I often struggle with feelings of inadequacy and failure. This text reminds me that God doesn't see me that way! When he looks at me, he sees me as holy, because of what Jesus has done for me.

This is way different than what the world says about me! The world says that in order to be someone, I have to be the best. But with God, I don't have to worry about being someone. Because God has already adopted me as his child.

This week I will remind myself that I am a saint by reading through one chapter of the Bible every morning. This will start my day by reminding me of what God thinks of who I am!